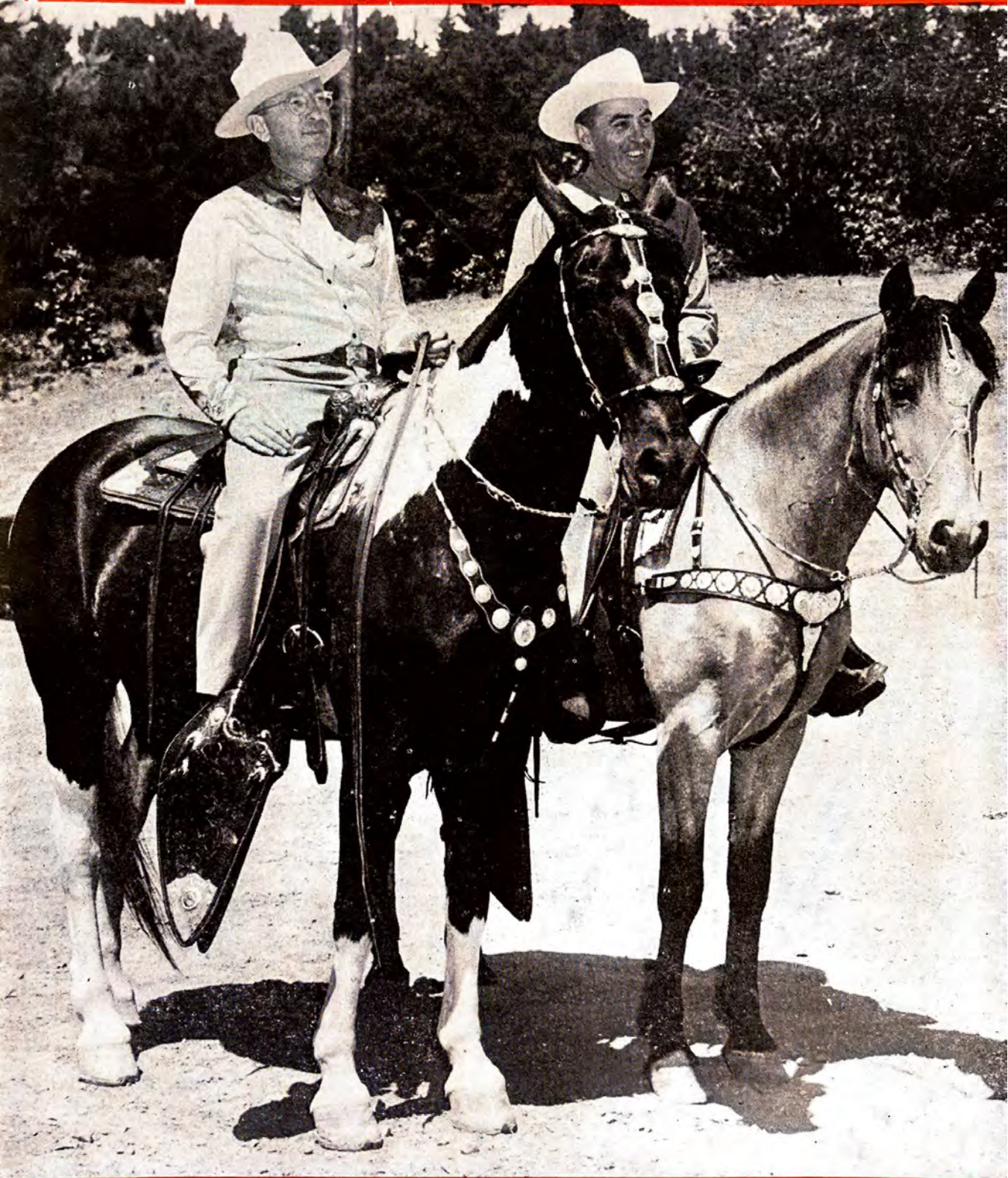




The Trail Blazer

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VOL. XV, No. 11

January, 1949

The Trail Blazer

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Oakland, California

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DEADLINE 10th OF THE MONTH

All copy subject to editorial revision

Editorial

NEW PRESIDENT ASKS COOPERATION OF ALL

In the midst of holiday festivities let's pause a moment and look ahead into the new year so close at hand — a year that should find us ready to forge on with plans already underway, and one that will offer opportunity to accomplish much in the way of progress for the M.H.A.

We are going into this new year well fortified. It is indeed gratifying to me that you have chosen the members you have to serve as your board of directors. Each one has already pledged whole-hearted support to our many projects and plans.

Our year's program, while still far from completion, calls for many activities, and our opportunities are unlimited. I have done my best to distribute the responsibilities among the board members evenly and I assure you, each one will do his, or her, part to make 1949 an outstanding year.

To the retiring president, and to those of the directors who relinquished their duties with the closing of the calendar year, go my heartfelt thanks and appreciation for a job well done. It goes without saying that the work of the new officers, as well as myself, will be made far easier by the excellent work of our predecessors.

However, I want to say that it takes co-operation from each and every member to make a success of such an organization as ours. This is definitely not a one-man job. It calls for everyone to do his part.

I earnestly and sincerely solicit your help. I'll appreciate and give consideration to every suggestion, and I am going to need a lot of assistance throughout the entire year. I'm counting on you!

So happy 1949 to every member of the Metropolitan Horsemen's association, and to its many friends. You'll be hearing a lot from me from now on.

James A. Myers,
President.

M.H.A. OFFICERS

JIM MYERS	President
HEBER J. BROWN	Vice-President
WILLIS PRAY	Treasurer
MARY GALE	Secretary

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JAMES A. MYERS	

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Date: Thursday, January 6

Time: 8:00 P.M.

Place: Jim Myers' Office:

Central Bank Bldg., 12th and Broadway

OUR COVER

While this isn't the picture we had originally planned for this month, our new president, Jim Myers preferred to share honors with the out-going president, Ted Dreyer, rather than appear in the spotlight alone.

Both outstanding horsemen, Ted, on the left, rides with the Aahmes Shrine Rangers, while Jim is a member and first lieutenant in the Alameda County sheriff's posse.

TED DREYER SINGS HIS SWAN SONG

Fellowship on every hand—that was our annual dinner dance and election party in a nutshell!

To me, personally, it brought a happy year to a successful and an enjoyable close.

True, we can't please everybody all of the time but, as yet, I have failed to hear one person that didn't pronounce the party a grand affair. The whole evening's entertainment was well handled. The committee functioned flawlessly and the huge attendance attested to its success. My appreciation to those who worked tirelessly so that everyone might have a good time has been voiced many times. May I repeat it once more?

I don't want to forget a special thank you for the beautiful statue and plaque presented to me. It holds a place of honor in my office for all to see and admire. It will always be a cherished possession as a reminder of a happy year.

To Jim and his new board of directors go my very best wishes for 1949. May they enjoy the friendships that have been my privilege.

The first big job for every one of us is to sign up members for the coming year. As you know, a great deal of thought went into the proposition of raising the dues. This was decided against, but only after it was voted to try for more members instead. This is up to all of us.

There is just one more point I would like to bring out. This is, that no money for social activities ever comes out of the association funds. These affairs are financed, in their entirety, by money-raising events put on several times a year for this purpose. Our major aim is to promote trails and to assist wherever possible in projects for the good of the horsemen and women of the Bay area. Concrete evidence of this lies in the newly erected Metropolitan Horsemen's arena.

So it's thanks for everything to everybody. May the coming year bring happiness and prosperity to you all.

Ted Dreyer, Past President of M.H.A.

SKYLINE FUTURE

Informal country life is beckoning many to Hillcrest Estates, the new Mason-McDuffie subdivision on Skyline Boulevard, with the first model home now nearing completion. Your reporter called on Niles Kinney at the tract office to secure first-hand information of interest to horsemen.

Be at ease, horsemen! . . . When Skyline Boulevard is completed, there will be two equestrian trails between, and one on the outer edge of each highway lane. In addition, an equestrian trail running from Skyline to Mills College has been dedicated to Oakland Park Department. This trail, a hundred feet wide in some sections, will be lined with redwood trees.

A beautiful Arizona flagstone gateway is planned for the entrance to Hillcrest Estates, and the plans include a watering trough for horses.

Hillcrest Estates CAN be the horsemen's paradise: the area is closer to both Sequoia and Redwood Regional Parks than any property now on the market; there will be space—room for corral, swimming pool, and the young folks can play cowboy in reality; the subdivision is divided into plots ranging from one to fourteen acres, and water, electricity, and gas will be available. An old-time resident of the area, your reporter claims that the view is the most spectacular in the world. (See full-page ad on back cover)

Advertising Copy To Be Sent to Editor

Effective with the present issue all advertising copy for the Trail Blazer should be sent to Mrs. Edna G. Collins, 2612 Alcatraz Ave., Berkeley 5, Calif. With the exception of copy from the stables, which should be sent to Mrs. Elizabeth Frampton, 58 Palo Seco Circle, Oakland, this also applies to all news copy for the magazine. All copy should reach the hands of the editor not later than the 10th of each month.

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Membership News

PRESIDENT MYERS MAKES APPOINTMENTS FOR '49

Members of the executive board named to serve in various capacities for the coming year were announced at the combined meeting of the old and new board members held December 15.

The appointments made by President Jim Myers, will take effect at the start of the new year.

Heber James Brown, membership; Edward J. Carey, public relations; Ted Dreyer, member of the horse show committee; A. B. Graham, trails; Irvin Hansen, counsellor and director to the Trail Blazer editor; Charles Logue, official Trail Blazer photographer; Art Palmer, parade chairman; Donald Phelps, chairman of S.P.C.A. committee; Willis Pray, treasurer of M.H.A.; Don Schwimley, chairman of the Wild West show; Clarence Simons, activities chairman, and Kay Walling, junior chairman.

A more detailed report of the appointments will be carried in the February issue.

Memberships To Be Sent to Bill Pray

Effective at once all memberships are to be sent to the newly appointed treasurer, Willis Pray. The address follows: Willis Pray, 1129 McKinley Ave., Oakland 10, California.

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ANNUAL PARTY HUGE SUCCESS

The "best party we have ever had" was the opinion of all those lucky enough to be present at the annual dinner dance at the Moose City Club on December 3. Statistics bear out the fact that it was by far the biggest, for 355 dinners were served.

The large attendance is concrete evidence of the excellent job done by Lucille Simons at ticket chairman, Kay Walling, her assistant, and every one of those on the committee representing the riding groups and stables in the area.

The Metropolitan Horsemen's Association was honored by the attendance of many distinguished guests including: Nat Levy, President of the Park Board; J. Vendes Mann, Park Board member; William Penn Mott, Jr., Superintendent of the Park Department; Clifford E. Rishell, City Councilman; Capt. Ora E. Rhodes of the Police Department; Joseph Tobin, Park Program Representative; and Richard Waldpole, Manager of the Regional Park District.

Unique Decorations

Ruth Green's idea of using a beautiful horse's head portrait and crepe paper to form a huge M.H.A. horse show ribbon, flanked by the colorful flags belonging to various riding groups, made the decorative scheme especially distinctive. The profusion of flowers secured through the courtesy of Martin Murray and his assistant Norval Moe, completed the symphony of color in the dining room.

Among those working at the hotel most of Friday arranging flags and flowers were: Mrs. Arnold Josephs, Mrs. Jim Myers, Mrs. Roy Tarr, Art Palmer, Cal Tisher, George Walling, Martin Murray, Ted Dreyer, and the decorations chairman, Ruth Green.

Flowers To The Ladies

The Misses Inez Thompson, Rhea Ludolph, and Corrine Smith handed out gardenias to the ladies, and ushered people to their tables. Others ushering were: Mrs. Fred Carnduff, Mrs. Josephs, Mrs. Tarr, and Mrs. Green.

Financially, the annual party was definitely a success, according to Blanche Paul, chairman of the event.

PEARL EARRING found at the Moose City Club after M.H.A. Dinner dance. Owner may have same by contacting editor. OL. 2-6783.

Regional Meeting Jan. 13th in Oakland

Plans are rapidly nearing completion for the first regional meeting of the California State Horsemen's association, it is announced by Fred Anderson, vice president of Region 5.

According to Mr. Anderson, the affair will be held January 13 at the Moose City club, 1428 Alice street. Dinner will be served at 7 o'clock, followed by entertainment and dancing. Tickets will be \$2.75 per person.

"This is not going to be a long drawn out business session", said Jack Richards, chairman of the evening when commenting on the affair. "We are planning to have it short and snappy, and promise a good time to all attending". Eddie Martin, of the newly organized Foot Printers is serving as co-chairman.

Special guests will be Ed Zwierlein, of Redwood City, state president, and Ray Stone, San Francisco, state secretary.

During the brief business meeting special consideration will be given to regional championship junior contests to be concluded before the 1949 state convention, as well as to adult championships. Dates will also be set for the three other regional meetings of the year. Present plans call for these to be held at Richmond, near Concord and somewhere in Southern Alameda county, thus enabling each district in the region to have one meeting of the year.

The meeting is open to all members of the C.S.H.A. and their guests. Those attending are requested to wear riding attire.

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With The International Footprinters Assn.

The International Footprinters association have formed a mounted patrol unit, which was organized Tuesday evening November 30 at the board meeting of the I. F. A. The unit will be headed by Jack Richards, chairman, assisted by Seargent E. T. Martin of the Oakland police department, member of unit number 7 I. F. A. Officers of the mounted unit will be L. A. Raschdorf, president; C. A. Crosswell, secretary-treasurer, and Carl M. Chambon, assistant treasurer; E. T. Martin, captain. Directors are Jack Richards, O. J. Patterson, and C. B. Jorgensen, Sr., Ray Theobald is director of publicity.

First mounted unit of the I. F. A. Oakland unit No. 7, will be composed of horsemen of the Oakland Metropolitan Area. To date 125 members, both active and inactive have signed up. The parade unit will be resplendent in black and white western type uniforms and will feature quality horse flesh and superb drill tactics.

With The Boots and Jeans

The Boots and Jeans held their old fashioned basket social November 21, in the Redwood Regional clubhouse.

Their Christmas party was December 15. Bill Charrette was chairman of the event, which featured a turkey dinner, Christmas tree, and Santa Claus with presents. After

the gifts were opened, dancing to the music of the Circle O Boys was enjoyed for the rest of the evening.

With The Lari-ettes

The Lari-ettes held their annual Christmas party for members and friends at the Pinto ranch clubhouse on Redwood Road, Saturday Dec. 18. They exchanged gifts and refreshments were served.

It was a delightful evening the Lari-ettes enjoyed at the M.H.A. annual dinner dance at the Moose Club on December 3, and they extend their congratulations to the 1949 M. H. A. officers. Good luck and smooth riding.

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At The Oakland

The Oakland Riding Academy teen agers have formed a drill team. They had their initiation December 4, with a 3 hour ride and an overnight stay in the canyon. The dinner and breakfast was planned by Ann Burnham. Officers of the group are Gertrude Potts, president; Johnny Shumaker, vice president; Noel Girard, treasurer; and Carol Barrett, secretary.

The all Western show given by the Oakland riding academy was well received. The results follows: Junior horsemanship, Chip, Pat Rukavena. Colty, Lynda Landsborough, and Mischief, Kyrina Curley. Pinto class; Jesse James, Bill Nathan; Checkers, Virginia McCellan; Little Shaver, Judy White. Stock horse class; Rabbit, Jim Black; Monterey, Ray Theobald; Colty, Leonard Landsborough. Pair class; Tequila and Mr. Sox owned by Dorothy Kaehler; second place to Patches, Virginia McCellan and Comanche, George Floyd. Third place to Colty, Lynda Landsborough and Frosty, Bud Gaines. In the trail class, first to Ribbon, Ruby Welsh; Tumbleweed, Glorya Street, second and third to Colty, and Lynda Landsborough.

In the Palomino class, first to Don Keno, Pearl Liebl; Tera, Dorothy Tarr; second, and third to Conchita, ridden by Peggy Kirby and owned by Henry Bigge. In the ladies' pleasure class, first to Bullet, Betty Phillips; second to Ribbon, Ruby Welsh, and third to Cindy-Loo, John Munsen. In musical chairs: first was Honey Bunny, John Shumaker; Patches, Virginia McCellan, second; and third Bad Penny, Barbara Albert.

Champion of the show judged on conformation, way of going and manners, and as best all around horse, was won by Ribbon, owned by Jim and Ruby Wells; second to Bullet, Betty Phillips; third to Rabbit, Jim Black. The show was judged by Frank Colburn, Jr., past president of the Metropolitan Horseman's Association, Bill Burgess, editor of the California Horseman, was the announcer, Kay Osborne served as ribbon clerk.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Hill are the proud owners of two new horses. Both are brown geldings and nicely matched. Mr. Hill's horse is

named Mio Val and Mrs. Hill's horse answers to the name of Smoky.

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At Cressmount

Cressmount riders were again victors of the second Exchange ride with Stirrup Club at St. Francis Riding Club, San Francisco, Saturday evening, December 4.

Officials for the evening were: judges, Mrs. Sylvia Blackburn, R. C. Van Den Berg and George Jones; ring master — Boris Stankevich; announcer—Jim Shaw.

Results for the Cressmounters were: Horsemanship—13 Years and Under: 1—Wilda Rosendahl (Subalterns), 2—Karen Anderson (Subalterns), 3—J. Windrim Smith, Jr. (Pegasus Patrol). Obstacle Race: 1—George Rausch (Upson Downs). 2—Juanita Gray (Upson Downs); Horsemanship—4—Happy Clements (Shongehon). Ring Spearing Contest; 2—Juanita Gray, Mary Gale and Eliz Shor each speared four rings apiece and drew for second, third and fourth places, respectively. Horsemanship—18 and Over: 1—Robin Norton (Bit and Spur), 2—Betty Yaw (Bit & Spur). Balloon Contest; Carol Blanch (Upson Downs) fought to the finish with three Stirrup Club members and won third place.

Upson Downs

Upson Downs members participating in the Exchange Ride were: Juanita Gray, Mary Gale, Jim Boswell, Carol Blanch, George Rausch and Frank Carvajal. Upson Downs has completed the first series of rides under instructor Woody Hansen and will resume regular riding again in January.



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Bit & Spur

After having passed written, riding and practical horsemanship tests the following girls were taken into Bit & Spur: Barbara Black, Betty Yaw, Zoe Desloge, Julie Kimball, Charlotte Baldwin, Kamby Thompson and Lyn Locke. The new members were formally invited at an exciting "Dawn Ride" held at 4:30 A.M.

Miss Cress entertained members of Bit & Spur, and Remounts, the apprentice group to Bit & Spur, at her home for dinner. Guest of Honor was Miss Nogues, chairman of the physical education department at Mills College.

Monday, December 6, Bit & Spur and Remounts held a gymkhana consisting of jumping, bareback wrestling, red rover, musical kegs, double bareback and rescue relay.

Europe. In addition they also provided a box for a needy family, which included clothing, food and toys.

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Shongehon

Shongehon Thanksgiving Ride on Friday, November 19th was one of the best ever, according to members. The girls rode around the "loop", and had lunch in the Redwood Grove.

Each year members of Shongehon do something for the needy and this year the girls bought a CARE package to be sent to

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At The Pinto Ranch

Hammers and saws are still in order at the Pinto ranch. The new indoor ring is completed and being put to good use in this rainy weather. There is a new blacksmith shop which is being enjoyed by all the horses as well as their owners. Due to the pick up in business, the saddle shop has expanded.

Harold and Carmelita Cummins have moved to their new ranch near Sutter Creek, Calif. Bill George has bought Marilyn Smith's nice pinto mare "Mar-O-ar". Pat Shell's Morgan stallion is well on the way to recovery, after running into a car and severely cutting his leg.

There are some new boarders at the Pinto ranch. Vagabond is a beautiful bay gelding belonging to Professor Toleman. Tom Talariea and Art Bull each have a nice gray mare. These two people are occupying two of the new stalls at the Pinto and feeding and caring for their horses themselves.

A flat saddle rider frequently seen grooming his horse is Colonel T. Hansen, who owns a bay gelding named Joe. Colonel Hansen was formerly manager of the Heather Farms racing stable. That good chestnut mare, Lady, is now eating and sleeping at the Pinto. She is owned by Jim Wheeler and Janet and Mrs. Phillips.

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